

Command words



What is the question asking you to do?

Calculate / Find

Work out a value, and show the working that gets you there.

Show that

The answer is given. Write every step so the reader can follow you to it.

Hence

Use the result you have just found to answer this part.

Sketch

Draw the shape with its key features labelled. It need not be to scale.

Explain / Justify

Give a reason in words, linked to the maths.

Write down / State

Little or no working needed: the answer should be quick to see.

General meanings in our own words. Your exam board publishes its own list of command words: check its exact definitions.